



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of) Examiner: L. R. HELMS
V. Hsei) Group Art Unit of the Parent Application:
For: **ANTIBODY FRAGMENT-) 1642**
POLYMER CONJUGATES AND) Customer No.: 25213
USES OF SAME)
Serial No.: 09/489,394)
Filed: January 21, 2000)
Atty. Docket No.: Genent .092A)

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BOX RCE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Preliminary Amendment

Dear Sir:

The present Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Before issuing an Office Action, please enter the following amendments, and consider the following remarks:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-7, 9-11, 13, 15, 16, 18-24, and 26-37, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

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38. (New)

A conjugate consisting essentially of an antibody fragment covalently modified by one or two nonproteinaceous polymer molecules at a free sulfhydryl group of a cysteine residue within the hinge region of the antibody fragment, wherein (a) the apparent molecular weight of the conjugate, as determined by size exclusion chromatography, is at least about 500 kD, and (b) the average actual molecular weight of each nonproteinaceous polymer molecule is at least 20 kD, and wherein the antibody fragment comprises an antigen binding site for a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of: human vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), human p185 receptor-like tyrosine kinase (HER2), human CD20, human CD18, human CD11a, human IgE, human Apo-2 receptor, human tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α), human tissue factor (TF), human